



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
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FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montañó

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Helen H. Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio
Mr. Vito Cannella
Ms. Rita Hall
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mr. Carl E. Moore

MINUTES OF THE **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING** **APRIL 9, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Montañó called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montañó led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE

Present

Chair Eleanor R. Montañó
Vice Chair Helen H. Stathatos
Frank Bacio
Vito Cannella
Rita Hall
John A. Hammargren
Carl E. Moore

Staff

Janice Davis, Commission Services Staff
Andrew Sevrin, Commission Services Staff
Garen Khachian, Commission Services Staff

APPROVAL OF APRIL 2, 2008 MEETING MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Hammargren, seconded by Commissioner Bacio, and unanimously carried, the minutes of April 2, 2008 were approved, with the following change:

- On Page 3, under “Discussion of Scholarship Programs”, remove the sentence, “The Commissioners agreed that the scholarships this year should go to the college book stores instead of personally to the students”.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Montaña reported on the following two (2) articles:

- “Armando Torres Morales Obituary”, Los Angeles Times, March 26, 2008, regarding Armando Torres Morales, a UCLA professor and activist on Latino issues, who passed away on March 12, 2008.
- “Threats On Court Officials Doubles”, Daily Breeze, April 6, 2008, regarding the large increase of threats in the past two years, involving violence, kidnapping, killing of judges’ wives, and strains on the security budget on court judges, commissioners and referees.

Commissioner Hall joined the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported the current balance of the Commission’s Charitable Fund is \$1,148.23.

STAFF REPORT

Ms. Janice Davis, Commission Services, gave the following report:

- Mr. Alan Henry from Community Care Licensing informed the Commission his Department will investigate the matter regarding the youth from Ha’re Johns Paradise Group Home.

DISCUSSION OF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

Ms. Janice Davis spoke with Mr. Raul Cardoza from Los Angeles Trade-Technical College (LATTC) because Mr. Castillo was on leave and would not be returning for two weeks. Mr. Cardoza offered to provide the Commission with copies of transcripts for the two (2) students who received scholarships from the Commission in 2007. He also said Mr. Castillo will provide them with the name of a deserving youth to receive this year’s scholarship as soon as he returns.

Commissioner Bacio responded by saying the scholarships should go to a youth in a Foster or Group Home in addition to a youth in a Community College. Commissioner Hammargren responded by saying the Commission should request that the selected schools choose the students for the scholarships.

Commissioner Hall submitted two (2) possible candidates for the scholarships from prior school inspection visits.

On motion of Commissioner Hammargren, and seconded by Commissioner Moore, the Commission unanimously approved to donate four scholarships, two (2) to Los Angeles Trade-Technical College and two (2) to Group/Foster Homes youths selected by the Commission.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

FACILITY/GROUP HOME INSPECTION REPORTS FROM APRIL 2, 2008 TO APRIL 8, 2008

Positive Path Youth Development Center – 50, #2 - Chair Montaña

The facility was visited on April 3, 2008, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Area of Concern: Manager was unable to find the key to open the cabinet which contained the Needs & Services Plan.

San Gabriel Children's Center – 52, #4 – Commissioners Bacio and Hall

The facility was visited on April 3, 2008, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Areas of Concern: Ant infestation in bathtub; house rules not posted; Life Books kept at corporate office; no client roster available; home files kept at corporate office.

Olive Crest Treatment Center – 44, #2 – Commissioners Hammargren and Montaña

The facility was visited on April 7, 2008, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Greene Home For Boys – 25, #5 – Chair Montaña

The facility was visited on April 8, 2008, and no one was home.

Touch A Life Foundation – 58, #1 – Commissioners Bacio, Hall and Moore

The facility was visited on April 8, 2008, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Areas of Concern: Smoke detectors not working; no records of disaster drills; current menu not posted; needs a fully stocked First Aid kit; will revisit in 30 days for Corrective Action.

Vice Chair Stathatos reported that she spoke by phone with Steven Smith of Moore's Cottage and he informed her the audit has been conducted and physical improvements have been made.

Commissioner Hammargren visited St. Anne's Maternity Home (page 55, #3) on April 8, 2008 but did not conduct an inspection.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Moore requested the Civil Grand Jury be invited to a future Sybil Brand Commission Meeting since they conduct jail inspections.

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)

Sybil Brand Commission Quarterly Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Montaña adjourned the meeting in memory of Armando Torres Morales and William Christopher Perry at 11:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice A. Davis
Commission Services Division